



**Regular City Council Meeting
7:00 p.m., Monday, November 16, 2020
Virtual Meeting via Zoom**

FINAL

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

A regular meeting of the Farmington City Council was held on November 16, 2020, as a Virtual Meeting via Zoom, an electronic meeting platform. Notice of the meeting was posted in compliance with Public Act 267-1976 and electronically as authorized under the Open Meetings Act, MCL 15.261, et seq., as amended by HB 1108, in order to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, protect the public health, and provide essential protections to vulnerable Michiganders by limiting in-person contact and the number of people interacting at public gatherings.

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Mayor Bowman.

1. ROLL CALL

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Sara Bowman	Mayor	Present	
David DeLind	Councilmember	Absent	
Joe LaRussa	Mayor Pro Tem	Present	
Steve Schneemann	Councilmember	Present	
Maria Taylor	Councilmember	Present	

City Administration Present

Director Christiansen
Director Demers
Superintendent Eudy
City Clerk Mullison
City Manager Murphy
City Attorney Saarela
City Attorney Schultz
Director Weber

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. APPROVAL OF ITEMS ON CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Accept City of Farmington Board and Commission Minutes
- B. City of Farmington Minutes
 - a. October 19, 2020 Regular
 - b. October 20, 2020 Special Joint
 - c. October 26, 2020 Special Joint
- C. Farmington Monthly Payments Report
- D. Farmington Public Safety Monthly Report
- E. Form 5572 - Pension and OPEB
- F. Farmington Quarterly Investment Report – 06/30/20 & 09/30/20
- G. Farmington Quarterly Financial Report – 06/30/20 & 09/30/20
- H. Farmington Quarterly Financial Report Court – 06/30/20 & 09/30/20

Move to approve the consent agenda as presented.**

RESULT:	APPROVED AS PRESENTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	LaRussa, Mayor Pro Tem
SECONDER:	Taylor, Councilmember

4. APPROVAL OF REGULAR AGENDA

Move to approve the regular agenda as presented.**

RESULT:	APPROVED AS PRESENTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	LaRussa, Mayor Pro Tem
SECONDER:	Taylor, Councilmember

5. PRESENTATION/PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. SPECIAL EVENT APPLICATION - HOLLY DAYS

Executive Director of the Greater Farmington Chamber of Commerce Connor Osborn had planned to request changes to Holly Days plans. However, the recent emergency order changed the event and Osborn indicated that this will downsize GFCC plans for Holly Days even more than originally thought. The Chamber of Commerce did not want to host an event that was meant to bring friends and families together in light of the recent Covid spike. He announced that the tree lighting will be held entirely virtually. He withdrew his request for a Special Event and hoped that next year a parade could be held and people could come together again to enjoy one another's company.

Bowman thanked Osborn for coming to the meeting tonight to let Council know his thoughts behind the difficult decision.

B. MAIN STREET ACCREDITATION PRESENTATION

Executive Director of Farmington Downtown Development Authority Kate Knight introduced Tim Colbeck from Mainstreet Oakland County. Colbeck announced that Farmington DDA has met standards for accreditation for a national program for 2019, though awards were delayed by the pandemic in the spring.

Schneemann thanked Colbeck for attending and asked how many years DDA has been accredited. Colbeck indicated that Farmington DDA had successfully met the standards for accreditation since the program began more than 15 years ago. He stated that Farmington has been a very strong community all these years. In response to a question from Bowman, Coleman described the ten criteria that are measured.

C. PUBLIC HEARING: DDA PLAN AMENDMENT

Knight introduced the first reading of an amended DDA Development Plan. She explained what change was requested before the public hearing was opened.

Move to enter into a public hearing regarding adopting an ordinance calling for the approval of an amended and restated DDA Development Plan.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	LaRussa, Mayor Pro Tem
SECONDER:	Taylor, Councilmember
AYES:	LaRussa, Schneemann, Taylor, Bowman
ABSENT:	DeLind

Public hearing was opened at 7:19 pm. No public comment was heard.

Bowman closed public hearing at 7:20 pm.

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE ADOPTING DDA PLAN AMENDMENT

Knight explained how the DDA Development Plan is one tool the DDA relies upon for identifying and implementing projects aimed at spurring new private investment. This tool is intended to plan and prioritize projects to help ensure that development and redevelopment within the downtown occurs in an orderly manner, and that improvements match the available revenues and can enable the DDA to become eligible for other funding sources.

The updated Plan was developed and reviewed by DDA staff, the City Director of Finance and Administration, Chris Weber, as well as a Committee of DDA Board members, with facilitation

by CIB Planning staff. The Plan will provide optional incentive tools for individual development projects, each of which must present to the DDA Board for approval.

LaRussa congratulated Knight and DDA Board for the quality of the presentation and asked her to summarize differences in the new plan for the public. He stated that he was looking forward to seeing how this plan drives growth downtown.

Move to approve introduction of Ordinance No. _____, an Ordinance calling for the approval and adoption of Amended and Restated DDA Development Plan.**

RESULT:	APPROVED AS PRESENTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	LaRussa, Mayor Pro Tem
SECONDER:	Taylor, Councilmember
AYES:	Schneemann, Taylor, Bowman, LaRussa
ABSENT:	DeLind

B. CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A RESOLUTION ADOPT A SOCIAL DISTRICT IN THE CITY OF FARMINGTON AND DEFINING THE COMMON AREAS

Knight requested approval for a Social District that contains a “commons area”. Once designated, “qualified licensees” whose licensed premises are contiguous to the commons area within the Social District and who obtain a license from the Michigan Liquor Control Commission (MLCC) may permit patrons to leave the licensed premises with the alcohol and consume it within the commons area.

A designated Social District, the "Syndicate", has been developed by the DDA for consideration in the form of a Resolution of City Council. DDA staff has worked with downtown business owners to determine which will apply to the MLCC for a Social District Permit. This will form the basis of the boundaries of the District. As more businesses add these permits, the Social District may be amended by City Council by amending the Resolution to expand or modify the District. This district would be live through 2024 to support our small businesses and create community and atmosphere in our downtown.

Schneemann asked for input from the City Attorney on the city’s increase of liability, if any, and what enforcement would look like from the Director of Public Safety. Attorney Saarela explained that there would not be a significant increase in liability. Director Demers shared that he had been in contact with other chiefs in nearby municipalities about approved social districts and they have seen no increases in crime, alcohol related offenses or drunk and disorderly offenses. He stated that Farmington enjoys a high degree of compliance with licensed facilities on the liquor control code. Schneemann also asked Knight about signage locations and pathways and how MDOT and RCOC feel about these. Saarela said it was common for social districts to have sidewalks included that are adjacent to public right of way. As far as crossing the road, the statute itself requires approval of the authority with road jurisdiction if the district required any closing of the road. In this case, the district does not close any roadways so no additional permitting is needed. Schneemann concluded that there seemed to be all green lights going forward.

LaRussa asked a further question about legislation or a maintenance plan that would allow for any striping necessary. He also noted that there was no true pedestrian pathway from Mimosa to the Syndicate. Knight said the district was walked by the design committee to make decisions on signage and to find natural “go paths”. They also considered scenarios about shared access streets. She said that the design committee was still exploring options and that they would be coming up with a temporary solution for now.

Taylor thanked Knight for adding connections between Mimosa and Grand River and across Farmington Road. She was excited to see how many people would take advantage of the social district.

Bowman asked when the approval process might be done and when the District might be viable. Knight clarified that it would be difficult to predict and that they could not put a hard start date on it. Bowman pointed out that though the resolution might be approved this evening, the public shouldn’t expect to go out immediately to walk around with cocktails in the commons area because the District is not quite ready.

Move to approve Resolution No. _____, to approve the City of Farmington "Syndicate" Social District and defining the Commons area.**

RESULT:	APPROVED AS PRESENTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Taylor, Councilmember
SECONDER:	LaRussa, Mayor Pro Tem
AYES:	Taylor, Bowman, LaRussa, Schneemann
ABSENT:	DeLind

C. CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE CONSTRUCTION ESTIMATE NO. 6 FOR THE MAYFIELD STREET RECONSTRUCTION

Superintendent Eudy requested payment be approved for work completed by V.I.L. Construction for Mayfield reconstruction through November 3, 2020. This amount includes a release of \$105,322.84 being held as retainage this period, which has reduced retainage to \$4,000.00. Work this period primarily included balancing of concrete & asphalt removals, concrete & asphalt quantity placement, drainage structure, and turf establishment.

Move to Approve payment to V.I.L. Construction Incorporated for Construction Estimate No. 6 in the amount of \$186,068.65 for the Mayfield Street Reconstruction.**

RESULT:	APPROVED AS PRESENTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	LaRussa, Mayor Pro Tem
SECONDER:	Taylor, Councilmember
AYES:	Bowman, LaRussa, Schneemann, Taylor
ABSENT:	DeLind

D. CONSIDERATION TO ACCEPT OAKLAND COUNTY WATER RESOURCE COMMISSIONER OFFICE'S PROPOSAL TO RECONDITION PUMP #6 AT 9 MILE RETENTION

Eudy explained that in January 2020 OCWRC recommended that the City allocate \$8,000 to perform inspection and recondition of pump #6. It was removed from service earlier this month, and upon disassembly of pump #6, the recommended reconditioning will exceed the OCWRC 2020. OCWRC and City Administration reviewed the cost difference of replacement versus reconditioning, and both OCWRC and City Administration agreed that reconditioning the pump is fiscally sound and meets our Long Range Plan (LRP).

OCWRC and City Administration recommended that the City accept the quote from Detroit Pump located in Warren, MI per the OCWRC qualified vendor contract to recondition pump #6 in the amount of \$15,600.00. OCWRC recommended allocating \$2,000.00 for OCWRC services removing and installing the pump and an additional \$1,400.00 in contingency funds. The total revised estimate is \$19,000 for completion of the rehabilitation of pump #6.

Move to accept the proposal from Oakland County Water Resource Commissioner Office (OCWRC) to recondition pump #6 in the estimated amount of \$19,000.00.**

RESULT:	APPROVED AS PRESENTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	LaRussa, Mayor Pro Tem
SECONDER:	Taylor, Councilmember
AYES:	LaRussa, Schneemann, Taylor, Bowman
ABSENT:	DeLind

E. CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE 9 MILE AND FLORAL EMERGENCY WATERMAIN REPLACEMENT PAY ESTIMATE

Eudy requested approval to pay D'Angelo Brothers Excavating \$212,934.20 with \$1,000 held as retainage until all signage is removed from the extensive project detour. An outstanding item not included in the pay estimate was pavement marking on 9 Mile Road. OHM & City Administration will coordinate with RCOC to complete the pavement markings promptly.

Move to approve Pay Estimate No. 1 in the amount of \$212,934.20 with \$1,000 held as retainage to be released when all detour route signage is removed to D'Angelo Brothers Excavating for the 9 Mile & Floral Street Emergency watermain replacement.**

RESULT:	APPROVED AS PRESENTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	LaRussa, Mayor Pro Tem
SECONDER:	Taylor, Councilmember
AYES:	LaRussa, Schneemann, Taylor, Bowman
ABSENT:	DeLind

F. CONSIDERATION TO RATIFY PAYMENT TO OAKLAND COUNTY TREASURER FOR INSTALLATION OF NEW WATER SYSTEM SUPERVISORY CONTROL AND DATA ACQUISITION (SCADA)

Eudy summarized how OCWRC and their contractors completed the SCADA project earlier this year and the system has been in operation for several months. OCWRC and City Administration failed to request authorization from City Council as both entities were short staffed and managing the pandemic through the early part of 2020. Eudy requested ratification of payment to Oakland County for this service.

Move to ratify payment to Oakland County Treasurer for installation of new Water System Supervisory control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) in the amount of \$60,397.**

RESULT:	APPROVED AS PRESENTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Taylor, Councilmember
SECONDER:	LaRussa, Mayor Pro Tem
AYES:	Schneemann, Taylor, Bowman, LaRussa
ABSENT:	DeLind

G. CONSIDERATION TO RENEW FARMINGTON ROAD MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT WITH THE ROAD COMMISSION FOR OAKLAND COUNTY

Eudy recommended that Council renew the Farmington Road Maintenance Agreement with the Road Commission for Oakland County. Under the agreement, which covers a one-year period beginning October 1, 2020, the City provides routine maintenance on Farmington Road between Eight Mile and Grand River. This maintenance includes patching, crack sealing, sweeping, landscape maintenance, snow and ice removal and general maintenance. This 2020-2021 agreement has an increase of 2.5 percent which increases the amount from \$22,875.93 to \$23,447.84.

Bowman asked about the increase of 2.5% and whether this allows Farmington to maintain standards for road maintenance. Weber indicated that it depends on snow for the year as costs fluctuate. He said it was weather dependent.

Move to renew Farmington Road Maintenance Agreement with the Road Commission for Oakland County.**

RESULT:	APPROVED AS PRESENTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Schneemann, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Taylor, Councilmember

H. CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE BUDGET AMENDMENT #2

City Manager Murphy explained that many of the City’s projects take place during the summer and often span the fiscal year end. Guessing how much of the project will occur in each fiscal

year is difficult and forcing contractors to work within a specific fiscal year is expensive. As a result, Administration allocates the total cost of a project between fiscal years and when budget is not used in one fiscal year, the budget is added to the next fiscal year through a budget amendment. Attached is the budget amendment moving funds from the 2019-20 fiscal year to the 2020-21 fiscal year. None of the items on the budget amendment represent non-budgeted expenditures. They are just a reallocation of budget from one fiscal year to the next.

Move to adopt Budget Amendment Resolution #2 amending Fiscal Year 2020-21 Budget.**

RESULT:	APPROVED AS PRESENTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Taylor, Councilmember
SECONDER:	LaRussa, Mayor Pro Tem
AYES:	Taylor, Bowman, LaRussa, Schneemann
ABSENT:	DeLind

I. CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE BUDGET AMENDMENT #3

Weber indicated that significant changes to large construction budgets add or reduce the budget now that final amounts can be projected with more certainty. These changes included the following projects: Freedom Road, Chatham Hills concrete patching, Mayfield Road, Mayfield Drain, Mayfield Sewer, and Bel Aire. Additional projects will be added including the 2021 Road Program, Sidewalk Program, and the Nine Mile Water Main project.

Bowman commented that she was happy to see reallocations right back into roads and sidewalks.

Move to adopt Budget Amendment Resolution #3 amending Fiscal Year 2020-21 Budget.**

RESULT:	APPROVED AS PRESENTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Taylor, Councilmember
SECONDER:	LaRussa, Mayor Pro Tem
AYES:	Bowman, LaRussa, Schneemann, Taylor
ABSENT:	DeLind

J. CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE BUDGET AMENDMENT #4

Weber stated that Administration would like to amend the budget in light of a recent grant from the State of Michigan to perform repairs on the Governor Warner Mansion in the amount of \$85,000. This budget amendment recognizes the grant revenue and upcoming capital outlay expenditures. Smaller necessary projects will be started as soon as possible, and any projects costing \$10,000 or more will be brought to Council for approval.

Taylor asked about whether an OHM work plan on Governor Warner Mansion repairs had been completed, and Murphy said it was just finalized. Taylor requested a copy.

Move to adopt Budget Amendment Resolution #4 amending Fiscal Year 2020-21 Budget.**

RESULT:	APPROVED AS PRESENTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	LaRussa, Mayor Pro Tem
SECONDER:	Taylor, Councilmember
AYES:	LaRussa, Schneemann, Taylor, Bowman
ABSENT:	DeLind

K. CONSIDERATION TO ESTABLISH A PATHWAYS COMMITTEE

Murphy announced the forming of a Pathways Committee to “explore improving bikeways and walkways in Farmington”. The resolution and bylaws call for a 7-person Committee comprised of the following:

- Voting members:
 - One representative of the City Council
 - Four residents of the City, chosen from the City at large
 - Two residents/non-residents users of the City’s pathways
- Ex officio members:
 - Director of Economic and Community Development
 - Director of Finance and Administration

The Committee’s scope of responsibilities is described in the bylaws. Formation of the Committee was promoted in local media by Communications Director Andrade, and Administration has received many offers from interested members of Farmington and the surrounding community to participate.

Bowman indicated her support for this committee and noted that it would be patterned after the Parking Committee and its bylaws. She noted that she had seen great community interest in taking part and recognized that this had been one of Taylor’s initiatives from the beginning.

Move to adopt a resolution to establish a Pathways Committee and adopt the Pathways Committee Bylaws.**

RESULT:	APPROVED AS PRESENTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Taylor, Councilmember
SECONDER:	LaRussa, Mayor Pro Tem
AYES:	Schneemann, Taylor, Bowman, LaRussa
ABSENT:	DeLind

L. CITY COUNCIL APPOINTMENT TO THE PATHWAYS COMMITTEE

Murphy requested that Council appoint one of their members to the Pathways Committee.

Move to appoint Maria Taylor to the Pathways Committee.

RESULT:	APPROVED AS PRESENTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Schneemann, Councilmember
SECONDER:	LaRussa, Mayor Pro Tem
AYES:	Taylor, Bowman, LaRussa, Schneemann
ABSENT:	DeLind

M. CIP PROGRAM DISCUSSION AND APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE TO STEERING COMMITTEE

Murphy would like to know which Councilmember would like to serve on the Capital Improvement Plan Steering Committee for this year's prioritization of projects.

Move to appoint Sara Bowman to the CIP Steering Committee.

RESULT:	APPROVED AS PRESENTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Schneemann, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Taylor, Councilmember

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was heard.

8. CITY COUNCIL COMMENT

LaRussa wanted to touch on the recent emergency order to reassure citizens that business owners are making plans. He asked for patience and for residents to keep doing takeout and giving support to all in your city. Though City Hall is closed, services are uninterrupted and our community stands out amongst others. He asked that residents go to local authorities if you see infractions of the emergency orders and to be patient with our Public Safety Department.

Taylor asked City Administration what Farmington's role will be in enforcement for the three week order. City Attorney Schultz said that it was still a state statute and would be enforced through the state through the county prosecutor's office. In practice, not much is different than earlier emergency orders. Demers said that there was a new violation referral form that would go directly to Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, and that his department is waiting for additional information. Farmington Public Safety's efforts will be in the education of the community since this is all so new. Education will take precedence over enforcement at this time.

Bowman spoke of last week's Veterans Day Luncheon held by Farmington Hills Special Services at the Costick Center in conjunction with the American Legion and the area Agency on Aging. She participated in the moving and touching drive by lunch and appreciated being able to be a part of that. She said that this was a small way to honor our veterans in this unusual time, and mentioned the City Veterans Banner program. Bowman also spoke of the health and safety order and said that Farmington City Hall was ahead of the curve and closed to the public except for by appointment, so that staff can continue to provide the level of services as expected.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Move to adjourn the meeting.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Taylor, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Schneemann, Councilmember

Meeting adjourned 8:19 p.m.

Sara Bowman, Mayor

Mary J. Mullison, City Clerk

Approval Date: December 21, 2020

******To view approved documents, please see the Agenda Packet link that is relevant to this meeting at <http://farmgov.com/City-Services/Government/Agendas-and-Minutes/City-Council.aspx> or contact the City Clerk.